

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs of the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph on page 29, at line 3, beginning with the words, "FIG. 13 depicts a general block diagram of a controller 1400 . . ." with the following amended paragraph:

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FIG. 13 depicts a general block diagram of a controller 1400 in accordance with an embodiment for controlling connections in access network 101. Controller 1400 may include a connection manager 1401 and a channel resource manager 1402. Connection manager 1401 controls allocation/de-allocation of a number of independent connection controllers 1403A-N. Connection controller 1403 controls various aspects of a connection between access terminal 104 and access network 101. The controlling aspects may include controlling flow of data packets between access terminals 1407A-N and data network 1404. Other controlling aspects may include mobility management, soft handoff, hard handoff, and radio link protocol. Channel resource manager 1402 controls a number of channel resources 1405A-N. Channel resource 1405 may include data queuing, modulating, demodulating, and decoding functions. In the forward direction, the channel resources 1405 may interface with a scheduler 1406. Scheduler 1406 determines which connection to serve and schedules a data unit from resource 1405 to be transmitted on a time division basis to an access terminal in access terminals ~~1406A-N~~1407A-N. An open connection may be viewed as a connection between access terminal 104 and data network 1404 where a connection controller from connection controllers 1403 and a channel resource from resources 1405 are assigned to the connection. Channel resource manager 1402 controls allocation/de-allocation (as indicated by dotted lines) of each channel resource in resources 1405, and connection manager controls allocation/de-allocation (as indicated by dotted lines) of each connection controller in connection controllers 1403, in accordance with an embodiment. When a request for connection is received, connection manager 1401 assigns a connection controller 1403 to the connection. At this point, the assigned connection controller takes over the controlling aspect of the connection. Connection controller 1403 communicates with channel resource manager 1402 for assigning a channel resource to the connection. Once a

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resource is assigned, connection controller communicates directly with the selected resource to set up a connection path from access terminal 1405A-N to data network 1404. The functions performed by each channel resource 1405A-N may include modulating the data for transmission to access terminal on a forward radio link and demodulating/decoding data received on a reverse link. Note that the physical location of the connection manager 1401 and the channel resource manager 1402 may vary depending on the implementation.
